

appearance of spots over so wide a range of latitude is usually an indication that the maximum is close at hand.

8. The comparison of the mean distance from the equator of all spots for 1904 with the corresponding years of the two preceding cycles is interesting, and marks the present cycle as decidedly unlike the two preceding cycles in its progress. The centre of gravity of the spot-zone has already approached considerably nearer to the equator than in the year before maximum of those two cycles, but the area attained is much smaller. The area in fact is that of nearly three years before maximum, but the mean distance from the equator approaches that of the year of maximum, as the following little table will show :

TABLE V.

Cycle.	Date of Maximum.	Year.	Mean Distance from Equator of all Spots.	Mean Daily Area of Whole Spots.
1879-1889	1883.9	1880	19.80	416
		1881	18.21	730
		1882	17.81	1002
		1883	13.04	1155
1890-1901	1893.9	1890	21.99	99
		1891	20.31	569
		1892	18.39	1214
		1893	14.49	1464
1902-	1904	16.57	488

9. The number of separate groups of spots was 84 per cent. greater than in 1903, so that the average size of the groups was not quite as great as in the earlier year. There was no single group at all comparable in area with the great group of 1903 October 4-17. In all, the groups of 1904 were 276 in number, 165 being in the northern hemisphere and 111 in the southern.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich :
1906 January 8.

Observation of Comet b 1904 (Encke) from a Photograph taken with the 30-inch Reflector of the Thompson Equatorial at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

Date and G.M.T. 1904	Apparent R.A.	Apparent Dec.	Log. A.	Corr. for R.A.	Parallax Dec.
d h m s	h m s	° ' "		s	"
Dec. 7 6 42 19	20 50 20.95	+ 5 51' 24".6	9.6830	+ .53	+ 13".3

Royal Observatory, Greenwich :
1906 January 5.

Observations of Comet b 1905 from Photographs taken with the 30-inch Reflector of the Thompson Equatorial at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

The following positions of Comet *b* 1905 were obtained from photographs taken with the 30-inch reflector. As a rule these were four images on each plate with exposures of from 1^m to 2^m. The plates were measured in the astrographic micrometer. Four reference stars were taken in each case, situated as symmetrically as possible about the comet. The positions of the reference stars were derived from the Catalogues of the Astronomische Gesellschaft.

Date and G.M.T. 1905				Apparent R.A.	Apparent Dec.	Log. A.	Corr. for R.A.	Parallax Dec.
d	h	m	s	h m s	° ' "		s	"
Nov. 20	10	9	41	23 54 39.31	62 8 28.7	9.3825	+ 1.77	- 3.6
21	8	13	25	23 47 2.78	54 1 25.5	9.3912	+ .30	- 1.6
23	9	55	53	23 38 18.44	37 31 24.9	9.4346	+ 1.01	+ 10.1
24	6	38	12	23 36 18.09	31 43 40.3	9.4649	- .29	+ 10.3
27	6	13	18	23 32 21.40	16 35 6.6	9.5657	- .25	+ 13.7
29	6	27	34	23 31 6.11	9 43 1.8	9.6312	- .12	+ 10.8

Further details of the observations will be given in the Greenwich volume.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich:
1906 January 5.

Observations of Mösting A made with the Altazimuth and Transit Circle at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

From the beginning of 1905, in concert with the Cape Observatory, observations of Mösting A have been made on the meridian when the Moon was in the second or third quarter. The primary object is a determination of the parallax of the Moon from the observations of N.P.D., the culminators being also observed at both observations for the elimination of the instrumental errors.

At Greenwich the limbs have as far as possible been observed as well as the crater, as in this way the observations of 1L are connected with those of 2L, and those of NL with SL.

The following table gives the tabular errors of the Moon's